GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:390
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2006
DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH OF MINING SECTOR
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Nikhil Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) The measures being taken by the Government for the growth and development of mining sector in the country ;

(b) Whether the Mineral Advisory Council(MAC) meeting held at New Delhi recommended measures for further development and growth of mining sector in the country; and

(c) If so, the details of the issues discussed therein alongwith the reaction of he Government on the recommendation of MAC ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA)

(a)to(c). A statement is laid down on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 390 FOR 19.12.2006 ASKED BY SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR AND SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY REGARDING DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH OF MINING SECTOR.

(a).Some of the measures taken by the Ministry of Mines for the growth and development of mining sector in the country are as follows :-

(i) Enunciated the National Mineral Policy in 1993.

(ii) Opened up the non-fuel and non-atomic mineral sector for private sector investment, including foreign direct investment(FDI).

(iii) Introduced the concept of reconnaissance permit(RP) as a stage distinct from and prior to actual prospecting operations.

(iv) Delegated further authority to State Government.

In order to promote further growth in the mining sector, a High Level Committee(HLC) under the chairmanship of Shri Anwarul Hoda, Member, Planning Commission was constituted to review the National Mineral Policy and recommend possible amendments in the Mines and Minerals(Development & Regulation)Act, 1957 to give a fillip to private investment in the sector.The Committee has submitted its report to the Central Government.

(b)& (c). Yes, Sir. There was a meeting of Mineral Advisory Council in which Chief Ministers of States Governments were invited and those Chief Ministers who could not attend the meeting sent their Mines Ministers. Mines Secretary of the State Governments also participated in the meeting of the Council. State Governments, Central Ministries/Departments, Industry and other members of the Mineral Advisory Council expressed their views on the recommendations of the HLC.